

## TOBACCO GROWER IN CHRISTIAN COUNTY

Whipped by a Band of Night Riders Saturday Night.

ALLEGED HE BROKE HIS PLEDGE AND SOLD CROP.

Hopkinsville, Ky., Jan. 26.—With their usual heady leadership, shown plainly by an overt act, night riders visited Era vicinity last night, and before taking Preston L. Rodgers from his home and whipping him, cut all the telephone and telegraph wires that no alarm might be given. As they rode up to the residence of Rodgers they fired a few playful shots into his house to awaken him. When he came to the door he was seized, and on his own lawn he was beaten with buggy whips until the blood started.

Rodgers was a member of the association, but it is said that he sold crop in violation of a pledge. He had received, it is said, a warning and a threat not to sell the crop, but ignored both.

Farmers and citizens of this town are much wrought up over the latest outrage, and they threaten that unless Christian county is spared further acts of crime and summary punishment each farmer and citizen will arm himself and shoot to kill when his rights are touched upon. No one attempts to condone Rodgers for selling a pledged crop, if the allegation is true, but all feel that the time has come to put an end to night riding, in this section at least.

1,359 Killed, 21,724 Injured. Washington, Jan. 27.—There were more than 23,000 casualties on the railroads of the United States in the three months ended September 30, 1907, according to a bulletin made public by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

The exact figures were 1,359 killed and 21,724 injured. This shows an increase of 157 in the number of killed and 3,066 in the number injured, as compared with the number reported for the corresponding period of 1906.

The total number of collisions and derailments in the quarter under review was 4,270, of which 320 collisions and 222 derailments effected passenger trains. The damage to cars, engines and roadway by these accidents amounted to \$3,005,696.

The worst accident in the present record, causing the death of twenty-six persons and injuring thirty-three, is reported as a result of a collision between an east-bound passenger train and a west-bound freight train, due to an error in sending or receiving by a train dispatcher.

The score of the polo game between Madisonville and Earlinton last Saturday night was 1 to 0 in favor of Earlinton. The game was given to Earlinton because the Madisonville team refused to finish the game.

## EWING WANTS TOBACCO CROP OF 1908 CUT DOWN

But it Must Not be Done by Pledge or Contract for Fear of Law.

Clarksville, Tenn., Jan. 27.—General Manager F. G. Ewing, of the Dark Tobacco Growers' association, has issued the following notice: "One of our directors suggested to me the advisability of keeping down the acreage, as it was done a few years ago, which was seven and one-half acres to the first fifty acres of land owned, two and one-half acres for the succeeding fifty acres. This must not be done as a part of the pledge of the planters, nor as a contract to that effect, as it might affect the legal standing of the association. It can only be done as advice of a personal nature."

## WHIPPED AT DAWSON SPRINGS

Tobacco Buyer Taken From Arcadia Hotel by Night Riders.

TWENTY OR MORE SHOTS FIRED INSIDE THE HOTEL.

Night riders last Friday night visited Dawson Springs, in this county and hunted a tobacco buyer named John Heath, whom they took across the river into Caldwell county and whipped. One who saw the raiders under favorable conditions to judge says there were not more than thirty-five of them. Heath is a buyer for the association but had been under suspicion of buying outside tobacco and incurred the displeasure of association people. The visitation occurred about one o'clock Saturday morning. The telephone office was guarded and the telegraph operator was taken from the Illinois Central office and held captive until the work was finished. The mob went to the Arcadia Hotel where Mr. Heath lives and demanded to be told where Heath roomed. Mrs. N. L. Holman, in the absence of her husband who manages the hotel, refused to tell and they searched and found him. The raiders shot up the clock in the hotel office and several window glasses. Dr. A. W. Brasher, father of John B. Brasher of Madisonville who is an association advocate and editor of the Madisonville Journal, has a room at the hotel. When he was awakened he stuck his head out his door and was promptly shot at, but escaped injury. Heath was probably more scared than hurt and was up the next morning. He promised to be good. Twenty or thirty shots were fired inside the hotel building.

## POLITICS THE LEVELLEST NOW IN WASHINGTON

Presidential Nomination Doings and the Opinions of Leaders of Both Parties.

Washington, Jan. 27.—With Shaw out of a job and about to enter the political arena, with Hughes an avowed candidate, with Cannon nominated by Boutwell of Illinois, and with Taft elected, according to the White House view of it, politics on the Republican side of the fence have come to be decidedly interesting. However, things are just as lively on the Democratic side. Col. Henry Watterson feels sure that Bryan will be the nominee of his party for first place on the ticket and that he will be victor at the polls. In fact, the Nebraska already has twice been nominated on the floor of the House. But Gen. Grosvenor, the veteran Republican ex-Congressman from Ohio and a famous political prognosticator, is just as sure that Bryan will not get the first place on his party's ticket. Other politicians and public men favor Johnson of Minnesota or Gray, of Delaware, while the name of Senator Daniel of West Virginia has been mentioned now and then as a suitable nominee. Other men in the rank and file of both great parties express the belief that so much rivalry will be stirred up among the various factions supporting that man or this, that their respective booms will be crowded to the rail before the June and July conventions and some Dark Horse will carry off the stakes. However this may be, the outlook at present points to some hot balloting in both assemblies; and the two tickets are put in shape.



## UNCLE SAM MAY PROVIDE WORK FOR EX-PRESIDENTS.

Measures Before Congress to put Them on Guard to Preserve World's Peace.

As an outcome of Grover Cleveland's recent article in a popular periodical, bills have been introduced in the House and the Senate which will provide suitable work for ex-Presidents of the United States and give them a good income for life. Both measures provide that former Presidents shall be ex-officio representatives, for life, of this country at the pan-American and other international conference in which the United States may participate, fixing their salaries at \$10,000 per annum and allowing them \$3,000 per year for private secretaries, together with all traveling and actual expenses incurred in carrying out the work of the commission. The duties of the commission, of which four members are to be appointed by the President from civil life, will be to investigate and, from time to time, report upon the several propositions looking to the substitution of judicial decisions for force in international relations, with a view to securing more enduring peace among the nations of the world. Representative Bartholdt, of Missouri, stands sponsor for the measure in the House, and Senator McCreaty of Kentucky from that in the Senate, and both believe that the plan outlined will not only take care of the men who have occupied the White House for four years or more, but will give permanence and stability to the investigations calculated to abolish war as a means of settling international disputes.

Alfonso Morgan, who formally lived here, is now in the county jail at Madisonville serving a sentence in lieu of a fine and cost amounting to \$131.00. Morgan, it will be remembered, with Joe Houlihan, held up a man near Barnsley last spring and was captured and fined \$100. He skipped and has been working in the coal fields in Illinois until a short time ago when he returned thinking the officials had forgotten him. Houlihan, it is said, has satisfied the county officials as to his fines.

## COMMITTS SUICIDE

Yesterday at The Residence of His Father.

Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 28.—William Caldwell, aged twenty-one, son of James E. Caldwell, president of the Cumberland Telephone and Telegraph company, committed suicide yesterday at the residence of his father near this city by shooting himself with a revolver. Young Caldwell's mind was unbalanced.

## WILL GROW BURLEY IF HAVE TO USE ARMED GUARD.

Spite of the Society of Equity Decision to Have no Crop This Year.

Notwithstanding the Equity Society has decided in favor of raising no tobacco in the white Burley belt in 1908 a number of independent farmers of Fayette county have decided to put in crops even at the risk of antagonizing the society. While they claim to be in sympathy with the Equity organization, they insist that business arrangements made by the announcement by the Equity of this policy of no 1908 crop make it imperative upon them to raise a crop this year or face bankruptcy. So even at the risk of having their beds destroyed by night riders they propose to put in their crops.

One prominent independent grower near Lexington who contemplates putting in about seventy-five acres said here today that he proposed to raise tobacco this year if he had to station a guard with a rifle at every tobacco bed on his place. This grower only recently purchased a large farm and erected several big tobacco barns on it for the express purpose of embarking extensively in the tobacco-growing industry.

## SUDDEN DEATH OF FORMER EARLINGTON LADY.

Mrs. A. F. Bramwell, Who Was Well Known Here, Passed Away in Nashville.

On Thursday morning at 6 o'clock, Mrs. A. F. Bramwell, wife of E. Bramwell, died at the residence of Mrs. H. H. Miller in Nashville, Tenn. Mr. and Mrs. Bramwell formerly lived in this city, where Mr. Bramwell was connected with the L. & N., moving to Nashville several years ago. Mrs. Bramwell has been an invalid for several years and died of heart trouble. She is survived by her husband and three sons William and Harry, of Earlinton, and Frank, who lives in Nashville.

Mrs. Bramwell was 65 years old and was born in Madison, Ind., where the body was carried on Friday, accompanied by friends from here and Nashville. Mr. Bramwell and his three sons have always held responsible position with the L. & N. R. R.

Mrs. Bramwell was a Christian woman, a good wife and a indulgent mother.

## L. & N. RAILROAD WINS CASE

Supreme Court Gives Railroad Right to Discharge Employee.

BECAUSE OF MEMBERSHIP IN A LABOR UNION.

Washington, Jan. 28.—The constitutionality of the act of Congress on June 1, 1898, prohibiting railroad companies engaged in interstate commerce from discriminating against members of labor organizations in the matter of employment was called into question by the case of William Adair vs. the United States, which was decided by the Supreme Court of the United States today favorable to Adair. The opinion was by Justice Harlan and held the law to be repugnant to the constitution.

The court held that Adair, a master mechanic of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company, had a right to discharge an employee because he was a member of a labor organization just as it was the employee's right to quit such employment because of his membership in such organization. Such a course, the decision added, might be unwise, but regarded as a mere matter of right there could be no doubt. Congress could not, under the Constitution, authorize a violation of the contracts under the guise of protecting interstate commerce.

Justice McKenna and Holmes took different views of the law.

The case came to the Supreme Court from the United States District Circuit for the Eastern District of Kentucky. Adair is the master mechanic of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company, and he was proceeded against on the charge of threatening to discharge from the employ of the company a locomotive engineer named Coppage because the latter was a member of the labor union. The act of 1898, which was one of the results of the great Chicago strike, was invoked for Coppage's protection and the District Court fined Adair \$100.

In his decision Justice Harlan held it was Adair's right to serve his employer as he felt he could so long as he did nothing forbidden by law as contrary to the public welfare.

"While," said Justice Harlan in his opinion, "the rights of liberty and property guaranteed by the Constitution to every person within the jurisdiction of law is subject to such reasonable restraint as the common good or the general welfare may require, it has not within the functions of Government—at last in the absence of contract between the parties—to compel any person in the course of his business and against his will to accept or retain the personal service of another or to perform personal services of another or to compel any person, against his will, to perform personal service for another. The right of a person to sell his labor, upon such terms as he deems proper, is in its essence the same as the right of the purchaser of labor to prescribe the conditions upon which he will accept such labor from the person offering to sell it. So the right of an employee to quit the service of the employer, for whatever reason is the same as the right of the employer, for whatever reason, to dispense with the services of such employee."

## FIRE BURNS TELEPHONES

Cross With Electric Light Wire Several Households Affected.

ROVING DOG CREATED AMUSEMENT MIXING UP WITH FIREWORKS.

Cross wires of the electric light system and the telephone system produced alarm and fear of fire in several households in the Eastern part of town Saturday night, and finished with a display of pyrotechnics in the yard of Dan Evans' residence. After being attracted by the odor of burning kerosene and wire insulation and discovering that the telephone boxes were burning on the inside, Mr. Evans and several neighbors cut the connecting wire and cleared them from their houses. When Mr. Evans, standing on a step ladder used a pair of wire pliers to cut away his wires, he received a shock which knocked him from the ladder to the ground. The current was pretty stiff but he was not injured. When the wire struck the wet ground there were some brilliant fireworks, which lasted for some time and until the cross wires were disconnected. Spectators were enlivened when a roving dog stepped on the live wires and howled his surprise into the night for some minutes. City Marshal Bradley is hoping that a live wire will get all the dogs that are delinquent in their taxes. The telephone company lost several telephone boxes in this scattered fire.

Dr. R. A. Baldwin, Thomas Stone and Mrs. J. E. Moore were among those whose telephones were burned. Dr. Baldwin cut his wires away from the house with an axe, being shy of the steel pliers used by his neighbors. Manager Lightfoot, of the telephone company, was sent for and cut away the dangerous wires. He has been busy since getting the damaged telephones replaced and in working order.

## Governor Willson is Victim of Grip.

Governor A. E. Willson is at his home suffering with a severe attack of grip, which he contracted while at Frankfort. He reached home Saturday evening and went to bed at once. The Governor's condition is reported very much improved.

## CHRISTIAN COUNTIAN AT WHIPPING POST

Sellers of Their Own Crops the Chief Victims of Violence.

Hopkinsville, Ky., Jan. 27.—The whipping of several men in the northwestern part of Christian county last week indicates a change of plan on the part of night riders. They are evidently paying more attention to the sellers just now than they are to the buyers. News was received a week ago of a large gathering in a few miles of about fifty men who met at midnight and held a secret meeting. This was followed by the whipping of Harp Mense near Hawkins, of John W. Heath at Dawson and of Fress Rodgers at Era, on three different raids.

Inquiries were made of one of Rogers' neighbors Saturday night as to the whereabouts of Henry Cansler, but it is still unknown whether or not Cansler was assaulted, as telephone communication has not been re-established as no repair work could be done on Sunday.